



Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health  
Pinal Regional Partnership Council

Work Session Meeting Minutes  
September 9, 2009

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**Call Work Session Meeting to Order**

The Pinal Regional Partnership Council Work Session Meeting was held on Wednesday, September 9, 2009 at Central Arizona College, 8470 N. Overfield Road, Coolidge, AZ 85228.

Regional Council Chair Mezzio called the meeting to order at 1:07 PM.

**Council Members in attendance:**

Barbara Mezzio, Kai Gerkey, Bryant Powell, Christina Jenkins, Mary Allen, Melanie O'Neil, Charity Russell, Arnoldo Hernandez, and Louis Manuel

**Council Members in attendance via teleconference:**

Mary Kyle

**First Things First Staff in attendance:**

Michelle Katona, First Things First, Assistant Director, Regional Partnership Councils, Marla Chamberlain, First Things First, Central East Regional Manager, Aimee Kempton-Sarosi, First Things First, Pinal Regional Partnership Council Coordinator, Todd Mason, First Things First Financial Compliance Manager, and Carrie Loos, First Things First, Administrative Assistant III, Central East Region.

**Public in attendance:**

4 members of the public were present

**October 14, 2009 Pinal Regional Partnership Council Meeting Agenda Items**

Aimee Kempton-Sarosi, Regional Coordinator, Pinal Regional Partnership Council, reviewed the agenda items for the October Regional Council Meeting. The agenda items reviewed were: discussion and possible approval of the Pinal Regional Partnership Council FY 2011 Regional Funding Plan, Regional Council meeting preparation, strategy work group reporting, Chair and Vice Chair meeting report, and coordinator's report.

**Update and Discussion on the Child Care Health Consultation**

Chair Mezzio and Ms. Kempton-Sarosi reviewed the Child Care Health Consultation (CCHC) Strategy and informed the Council that a Child Care Health Consultant will be working with regulated child care centers and homes in the Pinal Region through the Quality First statewide program as well as the regional expansion of these services. CCHC services for the Pinal Region will be provided through the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension Pinal Office. Chair Mezzio, along with Ms. Kempton-Sarosi and Marla Chamberlain, First Things First Central East Regional Manager, reviewed the opportunity to provide regional input by a Council Member into the contract with the University of Arizona Cooperative

Extension for CCHC services. They requested the input of Kai Gerkey, Vice Chair, Pinal Regional Partnership Council, to ensure the Council concerns were addressed and represented. Mr. Gerkey was asked to review a draft contract and provide feedback to First Things First. Mr. Gerkey reviewed the draft contract and expressed the following revisions:

- Service Methodology was recommended to be changed to job task
- Evaluation Tool: providing the evaluation tool to inform candidates on the evaluation process prior to signing a contract
- Qualifications of the consultant: terminology regarding the qualifications of the consultant (i.e. Registered Nurse) as this is a concern of the Council
- Expectations: meeting expectations and testing for competency

Mr. Gerkey's suggestions for revision were received by Ms. Kempton-Sarosi, Ms. Chamberlain and First Things First policy staff. At this time, the clarifications are currently being reviewed.

Chair Mezzio and Ms. Kempton-Sarosi gave an overview of the CCHC presentation and discussion by Kelley Murphy at the June 2009 Council Meeting. The Council discussed their concerns regarding specific topics of conversation and the method in which they were addressed at the June 2009 Council Meeting. The Council would like to draft a letter to First Things First and provide a positive and productive way to provide feedback on this topic and the effects it had on the Council. The draft letter will be presented to the Council Members for their review via email or at a subsequent council meeting.

#### **Discussion of Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Allocations**

Chair Mezzio announced the next agenda item as a discussion of the FY 2010-2011 allocations and recognized Todd Mason, First Things First Financial Compliance Manager. The topics of discussion reviewed were:

- Board approved allocations: the Regional Allocation Methodology adopted by the Board of First Things First was used to determine the FY 2011 allocations by calculating the estimated number of children birth through age five within each Regional Partnership Council area and applying the poverty rate estimated for families with young children to that estimated population using the latest Census data.
- Discretionary Funding:
  - Baseline Adjustment: for FY 2011 a baseline adjustment was recommended for the Pinal Regional Partnership Council, in the amount of \$247,000.00, because of the decline in population-based allocation which produced a decrease of \$494,000.00 in the FY 2011 regional allocation. This adjustment is equivalent to about 50 % of the decrease in dollars of the FY 2011 regional allocation.
  - Frontier Community: the Pinal Regional Partnership Council is not considered a Frontier Community and did not receive any additional funding in this funding category.
  - Other Discretionary: the discretionary funding is distributed on a ration based on each Regional Council's percentage of the total birth through age five population or based on each Regional Council's percentage of the total population-based dollars allocated, including the distribution based on poverty counts.
- Estimating population-based calculations: population estimates are based on the July 1, 2008 estimates of birth through age five population and the population living in poverty. The sources which are used are the American Community Survey (ACS) and the Census Bureau Population Estimates Program. Growth rates are based on the Census Bureau's population estimates for children birth through age four and the poverty rate is calculated using the Census Bureau.

Poverty rate is also adjusted using the previously published data along with the current published data. The Pinal region did see a decrease in poverty.

Ms. Kempton-Sarosi informed the Council that the Board of First Things First determined the discretionary funding for FY 2010 was designated to the Emergency Scholarships and to the Emergency Food Box Program. The Board of First Things First determined that each Regional Council receiving discretionary funding for the FY 2011 will best determine how to implement the funding. The Pinal Regional Partnership Council was allocated \$1,007,317.00 for FY2011. Additionally, the Pinal Regional Partnership Council will receive a baseline adjustment of \$247,000.00 for the FY 2011.

**Discussion on Fiscal Year 2011 Funding Plan**

Chair Mezzio tabled the discussion on Fiscal Year 2011 funding plan due to lack of time.

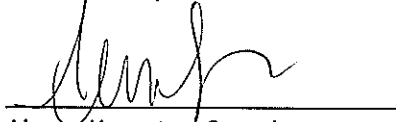
**Update and Discussion on Statewide and Regional Strategies**

Chair Mezzio tabled the update and discussion on statewide and regional strategies due to length of time.

**Adjourn**


Chair Mezzio called the meeting to adjourn at approximately 2:05 PM.

Submitted By:



Aimee Kempton-Sarosi  
Regional Coordinator  
Pinal Regional Partnership Council

Approved By:



Barbara Mezzio  
Chair, Pinal Regional Partnership Council

